

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/409,947 Confirmation No. 6167
Applicant : Nizri et al.
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TC/Art Unit : 2617
Examiner : Jean Alland Gelin
Docket No. : 990520
Customer No. : 23696

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to consideration of the above referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 15 of this paper.